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No. 23

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 12, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SESTAK) for 5 minutes.

HONORING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAACP

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, for nearly a century, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP, has been fighting for the civil rights and dignity of people of color. As a result of their efforts, our great Nation today can boast of a society more diverse, productive, prosperous and hopeful than any in history.

However, today's hope is a far cry from the violent segregation and discrimination that inspired Mary White

Ovington, William English Walling and Dr. Henry Moskowitz to meet in a small room of a New York City apartment and commit the fledgling NAACP to the most important social movement in our national history. Today, the spirit of those brave and patriotic founders lives on in its leaders, like Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn, president of the Media, Pennsylvania NAACP chapter in my home district. I rise today to congratulate Dr. Duval-Flynn for her vision, intelligence and dedication. She leads a chapter of the NAACP born of a violent act in the early 1920s and committed to making Delaware County, Pennsylvania, a 21st century community where people of all colors and creeds live together as neighbors, friends and first-class citizens.

In my first year representing the Seventh District of Pennsylvania, the NAACP's magazine, *The Crisis*, featured an article titled "Woman Warriors, Female Combatants Sacrifice Lives for Country." That article gave me cause to consider all of the extraordinary women and men of color I had the privilege of serving with during my 30 years in our Armed Forces. For that privilege and honor, I owe, and our Nation owes, a personal debt of gratitude to Dr. Duval-Flynn, Mary White Ovington and countless other members and leaders of the NAACP.

As W.E.B. Du Bois wrote in his first editorial page of *The Crisis* in 1910, that voice of the NAACP "will stand for the rights of men, irrespective of color or race, for the highest ideals of American democracy, and for the reasonable but earnest and persistent attempt to gain these rights and realize these ideals." No truer words can be spoken than on this birthday of the NAACP. I am proud, therefore, to know and work with this one remarkable leader, Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn, in my district as with many others in my district and with the NAACP who gave us leaders such as she.

Founded on February 12, 1909, the NAACP is the Nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. It has worked successfully with allies of all races who believe in, and stand for, the principles of civil rights on which the organization was founded.

The NAACP's legacy includes historic events as well as distinguished leaders, as I mentioned, W.E.B. Du Bois, but other civil rights leaders such as Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers and Thurgood Marshall, who served as special counsel for the NAACP when he argued the historic U.S. Supreme Court case of *Brown v. Board of Education*, a landmark victory for equality that outlawed segregation in our schools. Our obligation to African Americans and all Americans is to honor the accomplishments of the past by acting in a substantive manner to improve their lives in the future.

Thank you, NAACP; thank you, Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn; and thank you for the time this morning, Mr. Speaker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RUSH) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Chaplain William E. Dickens, Jr., 445th Airlift Wing, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, offered the following prayer:

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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